CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1   1.   A method for learning the physical location of a resource in
2 communication with a network, the method comprising:
3   (a)   assigning to the resource a global resource locator (GRL) tag,
4 the GRL tag including at least a description of the physical location of the resource;
5   (b)   communicating the GRL tag over the network; and,
6   (c)   extracting the description of the physical location from the GRL
7 tag.

1   2.   The method of claim 1 wherein assigning the GRL tag includes storing
2 the GRL tag on the resource.

1   3.   The method of claim 1 wherein assigning the GRL tag includes storing
2 the GRL tag in a list of resources on a server.

1   4.   The method of claim 1 wherein assigning the GRL tag includes:
2   (a)   specifying a coordinate system in the GRL tag; and,
3   (b)   specifying coordinates for the resource in the GRL tag.

1   5.   The method of claim 1 wherein assigning the GRL tag includes
2 providing a descriptive label of the resource in the GRL tag.

1   6.   The method of claim 1 further including applying user selected search
2 criteria to the GRL tag.

1   7.   The method of claim 6 wherein the user selected search criteria
2 includes a comparison of a location of the user to the location of the resource.

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1   8.   A system for learning the physical location of a resource in

2   communication with a network, the system comprising:

3   (a)   a network resource;

4   (b)   a client device;

5   (c)   a network for providing communication between the network

6   resource and the client device;

7   (d)   a tag assignor configured to assign to the resource a global

8   resource locator (GRL) tag, the GRL tag including at least a description of the

9   physical location of the resource; and,

10   (f)   executable code, accessible by the client, configured to extract

11   the description of the physical location from the GRL tag for the client.

1   9.   The system of claim 8 wherein the tag assignor includes means for

2   storing the GRL tag on the resource.

1   10.   The system of claim 8 wherein the tag assignor includes:

2   (a)   a server;

3   (b)   a list of resources stored on the server; and,

4   (c)   means for storing the GRL tag in the list of resources.

1   11.   The system of claim 8 wherein the tag assignor includes:

2   (a)   means for specifying a coordinate system in the GRL tag; and,

3   (b)   means for specifying coordinates for the resource in the GRL

4   tag.

1   12.   The system of claim 8 wherein the tag assignor includes means for

2   providing a descriptive label of the resource in the GRL tag.

1   13.   The system of claim 8 wherein the executable code is further

2   configured to apply user selected search criteria to the GRL tag.

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1   14.   The system of claim 13 wherein the user selected search criteria

2   includes a comparison of a location of the user to the location of the resource.

1   15.   A program storage device readable by a computer, tangibly

2   embodying a program, applet, or instructions executable by the computer to perform

3   method steps for learning the physical location of a resource in communication with a

4   network, the method steps comprising:

5   (a)   receiving a GRL tag communicated over the network, the GRL

6   tag including at least a description of the physical location of the resource; and,

7   (b)   extracting the description of the physical location from the GRL

8   tag.

1   16.   The program storage device of claim 15 wherein the method steps

2   further include applying user selected search criteria to the GRL tag.

1   17.   The program storage device of claim 16 wherein the user selected

2   search criteria includes a comparison of a location of the user to the location of the

3   resource.

1   18.   The program storage device of claim 16 wherein method steps further

2   include displaying to the user resource meeting the user selected search criteria.

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